GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:508
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
IMPORT OF SUB-STANDARD SPARES
AJAY CHAKRABORTY;KAILASH MEGHWAL;KAMAL NATH;NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during August-September, 2002, two Mig-21 aircraft crashed at Ambala and Jodhpur;

(b) if so, whether both these Migs were recently cleared to fly after weeks of grounding following a spate of crash;

(c) whether this has confirmed the remarks made by Russia that India was purchasing sub-standard spares and equipments from Commonwealth Independent States as reported in the Times of India dated August 28, 2002;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the steps being considered by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e): The statement made by Director General, Rosboronexport,a Government owned company of Russia is factually incorrect. MiG 21 aircraft are being overhauled under license at Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL)All spares manufactured at HAL and those bought from abroad are subjected to stringent quality control tests before being installed on the aircraft. The spares supplied to Indian Air Force are also certified by Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance.